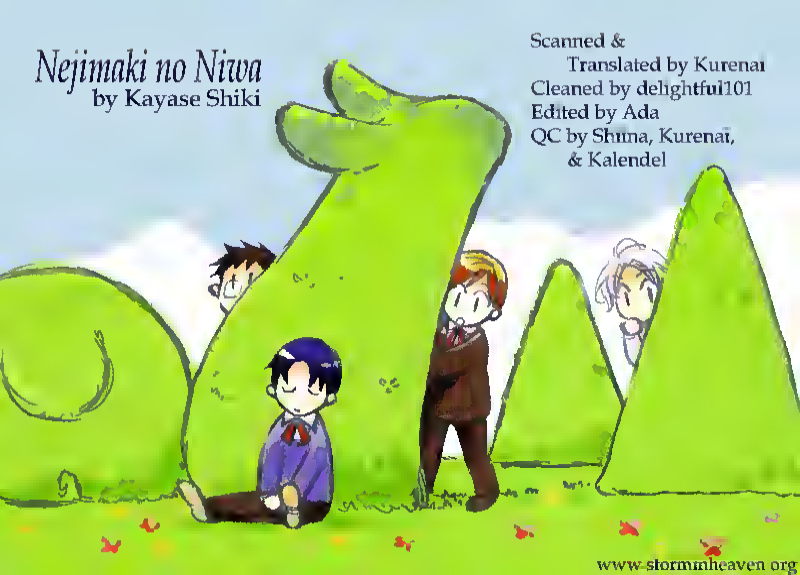
Nejimaki no Niwa
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www.stormnheaven.org

Nejimaki no Niwa 1
梶世シキ
THE WIND UP GARDEN
SHIKI KAJIYE

Nejimaki no Niwa 1

榎世シキ

THE WIND-UP GARDEN
ENJIKI KAYASE

CONTENTS

Chapter 1.....003

Chapter 2.....035

Chapter 3.....073

Chapter 4.....114

Chapter 5.....155

YOU'RE NOT A STUDENT HERE, ARE YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE CAME TO SEE MY BIG BROTHER... ME AND DADDY AND EVERYBODY.
YOU'RE LOST?
YOU WILL? I...
YEAH. SO STOP CRYING.
COME ON. I'LL TAKE YOU BACK TO THEM.
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE THIS.
IT'S A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP

Chapter 1

DING DONG
Did you get all the answers?
Not #7
The girls have covered the topic in their class, right?
Ass. Like we could even ask them.
RALIM!
DID YOU DO THE MATH HOMEWORK? CAN WE SEE?
UH MATH? I CAN'T HELP YOU THERE. ASK KAREL.
KAREL IS NO GOOD
HE TAKES NOTES AND STUFF IN HIS HEAD
WHAT ABOUT TULLI? HE COMES TO CLASS ALL PREPPED
YOU CALLED?
TULLI!

ANY IDEA HOW TO DO #4, #6, AND #8?
I'M DRAWING A BLANK HERE.
I WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU GOT FOR #10, TOO
Huhz
Huhz
OH, SURE.
Our Savior!
TULLI!
SO...
THEY WANT TO SEE YOUR HOMEWORK.
WHAT DO I GET IN RETURN?
Grin
HUH?
Oh, uncle

Uh, how do the next foreign language elective prep notes sound?
Y-you could have my evening dessert
I WAS ONLY KID-DING!
DON'T TAKE IT SERI-OUSLY!
LET ME GUESS
ANOTHER ONE OF TULLI'S ATTEMPTS AT HUMOR BACKFIRED
KAREL
YEAH, WELL YOU CAN NEVER TELL WHEN HE'S JOKING NOT WITH TULLI
Anyway, d'you know how to do the questions in the text?
YEAH?
Which ones?
NOT THAT IT'S A BAD THING
HE WAS AWFULLY SHY WHEN HE FIRST GOT HERE I WAS AFRAID HE WOULDN'T LAST
TRUE

I WAS EXPECTING HIM TO BREAK DOWN AND CRY AT NIGHT. HOMESICK AS HE WAS.
HA HA
SURPRISINGLY LIVING AWAY FROM HIS PARENTS SUITS HIM JUST FINE
TULLI'S FULL OF SURPRISES
LIKE A WOLF WITH A RABBIT'S FACE.
THAT'S, UH, ONE WEIRD ANALOGY YOU JUST MADE.
Are you trying to say he's a monster?
DING DONG
BACK TO YOUR SEATS.
rustle
THERE'S THE BELL
clatter
ABOUT 46—
WHERE'S MY BOOK?
HE'S COMING
clatter

HUH?
LOOK OUTSIDE, RALIM
DO YOU SEE A GIRL WHO ISN'T IN UNIFORM?
WHAT IS SHE DOING THERE?
WHAT GIRL?
WHA—?

SPUTTER
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN A GHOST.

A GHOST IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, YAN?
WE NEVER SAID THAT!
DIDN'T SHE DIS-APPEAR?
YAN! WILL YOU EVER LEARN THAT NOT EVERYTHING IS A SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENON?!

BUT THERE ARE TONS OF LOCAL LEGENDS ABOUT SPIRITS AND GHOSTS DATING FROM WAY BACK WHEN
YOU PROBABLY HAVEN'T HEARD BECAUSE YOU'VE ONLY BEEN HERE FOR THREE MONTHS
LISTEN UP, TULLI

UM, YAN.
YOU'VE SEEN SPIRITS OR GHOSTS BEFORE?
NOPE.
A vast source of knowledge.
HOW DO YOU EVEN MANAGE TO CONNECT TWO COMPLETELY IRRELEVANT THINGS?
BACK TO THE TOPIC LET'S CONSIDER WHERE WE'RE AT THE MOUNTAINS. THE WAY I SEE IT, IF THE GIRL ISN'T FROM THIS SCHOOL, SHE'S GOT TO BE—
THE LAKE NEARBY HAS ITS SHARE OF STORIES TOO

KAREL
YOU MAKE VALID POINTS, AS USUAL
THANKS, I GUESS
UH, OK...
MAYBE SHE'S FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL. WERE ON A FIELD TRIP THERE. EXPLAINS IT BETTER THAN THE GHOST THEORY.

!
ALREADY?
BY THE WAY, RALIM, TULLI YOU'RE UP NEXT ON THE DUTY ROSTER.
HUH?
WHAT DUTY ROSTER?

BASICALLY, THE TEACHERS ASSIGN US DUTIES—LIKE SORTING OUT SHEET MUSIC OR CLEANING LAB EQUIPMENT—
3
2
1
ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS, ACCORDING TO ROOM NUMBER.
OH.

FINE BY ME.
SAME HERE
YOU SURE?

YOU'RE GOING TO BE TAKING CARE OF THE ART ROOM. OF COURSE, IF IT'S NOT CONVENIENT, YOU CAN ALWAYS TRADE—

WELL, IN THAT CASE, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD WARN YOU—

TUILI,
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU NEED TO BORROW THE BOOK WE'LL BE USING IN FOURTH PERIOD?
!!
SPRING
!
I FORGOT!
SORRY, YAN I'VE GOT TO RUN NOW.
clatter
HE GOT LOST JUST THE OTHER DAY...
Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL THEM THAT!
KAY.
YOU TOO RAUM?
rise
SEE YOU GUYS LATER.
DON'T BE LATE FOR FOURTH PERIOD!

DOESN'T THE WAY WE'RE SEATED REMIND YOU OF A MARRIED COUPLE WHO ARE SICK OF EACH OTHER AT DINNER?
munch
munch
munch
munch
munch
mu
HEY, KAREL?
YEAH?
YOUR PARENTS SIT LIKE THIS AT DINNER?
I'd be worried
NO, THAT'S NOT IT, I THINK
chomp chomp
RAUM!

HUH?
BUT THEY ARE WAY HANDIER.
YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN THINKING
MAYBE I ALWAYS GET LOST PARTLY BECAUSE WE TAKE SHORT-CUTS EVERY-WHERE.

THIS, A MAZE? THAT'S STRETCH-ING IT.
ME I'M HOPELESS WHEN IT COMES TO MAZES
FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN AROUND SINCE LOWER SCHOOL LIKE YOU, I GUESS

stuck in a sock feels?
Is this how a mouse
ONCE, I GOT STUCK IN ONE FOR HALF A DAY
THE WHOLE TIME I WAS CURSING WHOEVER MADE THE THING
IF YOU THINK OF THE SHORTCUTS AS, YOU KNOW, THOSE HEDGE MAZES FOR KIDS—
like the one in Alice in Wonderland
Just how big was that maze?!

ALL RIGHT I'LL TRY NOT TO USE THEM TOO MUCH WHEN I'M WITH YOU.
Yes please
WHAT'S WRONG, RAUM?
I SAW HER.
SAW WHO?
PROBABLY THE SAME GIRL YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT
SHE'S NOT WEARING THE SCHOOL UNIFORM.
LET'S GO AFTER HER.
HUH?
WAIT—

WHAT'S THE POINT OF GOING AFTER HER?
ARE WE TRYING TO PROVE SHE'S NOT A GHOST?
SHE'S MOST DEFINITELY NOT A GHOST
BUT SOMETHING'S A LITTLE OFF
WHAT'S SHE DOING OUT HERE ALL ALONE? SHE LOOKS YOUNG ENOUGH TO BE IN LOWER SCHOOL
IS SHE LOST OR SOMETHING?

HUFF
HUFF
ARE YOU SURE...
SHE WENT THIS WAY?
I THINK SO

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO HER.
SHE IS JUST A LITTLE GIRL.
MAYBE...
YOU WERE SEEING THINGS

SHE MUST'VE BEEN A GHOST AFTER ALL.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT CRAP
peek

!
There she is.
See?
She's tiny I wish I had a baby sister like her
Hey
YOU'RE NOT SCARY PEOPLE, ARE YOU?
HUH?
NO,
GUESS NOT
"GUESS NOT"?
MY DOGGIE'S BROKEN
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY WHO CAN FIX HIM

P
P
YOU MEAN YOUR DOG IS HURT,
AND YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE HIM BETTER?
NUH-UH
HE'S BROKEN I WANT TO GET HIM FIXED
...
Probably a stuffed dog or something
Even we can help her
Huh?
You're volunteering us?!
Yeah, well—
?

Fine, then. You don't have to do it
I can't force you if you're not up—
Whelp!
WHO SAYS I'M NOT UP TO IT?! IT'S JUST A DOG! OF COURSE I CAN FIX—
!
YOU CAN FIX HIM?
Rats!
THAT SETTLES IT
WE'LL FIX YOUR DOGGIE FOR YOU.
BRING HIM TO US, 'KAY?
THANKS LOTS AND LOTS!
SAY—

THAT'S THE "DOG" YOU PROMISED TO FIX?
rubble
LOOK KAREL
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP YOU MIGHT AS WELL GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM
INGENED
Uh, is th a sum of the ears?
SHE DID GIVE US A CLUE ON HOW THE DOG ORIGINALLY LOOKED
Hare

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ART ROOM DUTY?
THAT REMINDS ME...
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET UP TODAY TO DISCUSS IT
I'D BETTER GET GOING
RISE
cr cal
THIS DRAWING DOESN'T EVEN REMOTELY LOOK LIKE A DOG, LET ALONE A BREED
WELL, IT'S NOT A CAT, I DON'T THINK.

IF YOU HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO, WE CAN TAKE OVER YOUR SHIFT
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A DOG
Pretty much.
WHAT'S THAT RUBBLE?
ARE YOU PUTTING A MODEL TOGETHER?
Where's my note-book?

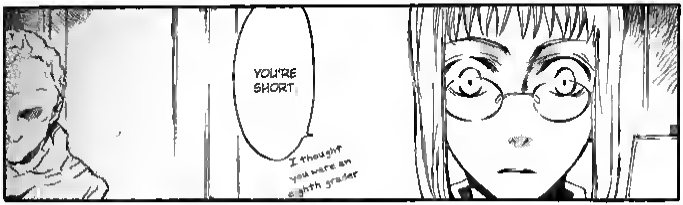
HOW COME?
SOMEBODY WANTS TO DO THIS PARTICULAR DUTY, ACTUALLY.
You should've said so from the start.
Hurrm

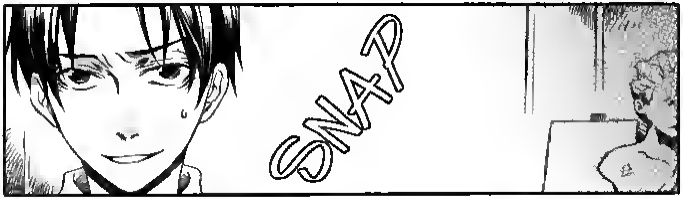
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LET ME READ YOUR FORTUNE FOR THE ENTIRE MON--
I'M OFF!
SLAM

JEEZ, PAL.
BEING TOO MUCH OF A GENTLEMAN AROUND HER WILL GUARANTEE YOU A SPOT IN HER BAD BOOKS.
Watch out.
IT'S RUDE TO CALL A GIRL AN ODDBALL, YAN.
THE ART CLUB PRESIDENT IS SOMETHING OF AN ODDBALL IT'LL BE FUN WORKING WITH HER
Not the type you'd end easily here.
Even Yan calls her an oddball
WELL, TULLI, YOU'LL SEE WHEN YOU MEET HER.
A spot in her bad books?

YOU'RE IN THE TENTH GRADE?
YES

UM. .
stare stare stare
HMM


YOU'RE SHORT
I thought you were an eighth grader


SNAP

CALM DOWN, SELF. LOSING YOUR TEMPER HERE WILL ONLY SHOW HER WHAT A KID YOU ARE
I UH CAME HERE ABOUT THE DUTY THING
MAY I KNOW WHERE THE TEACHER IS?

MR. VIL LEAVES ME IN CHARGE OF THIS
I'M BRONA CLARK TWELFTH GRADE
NICE TO MEET YOU, UH
RAUM ORLANDO
...RAUM.

WE WANT TO REORGANIZE THE ROOM.
MOVE THINGS AROUND
raum
rummage
THAT'S WHERE YOU AND YOUR ROOMMATE COME IN

THEY MAKE HORROR MOVIE PROPS HERE?
MOVING THEM ALL AT ONCE IS A LOT OF WORK, SO LET'S NOT RUSH IT.
OH, WELL.
MAKES THE JOB FUN

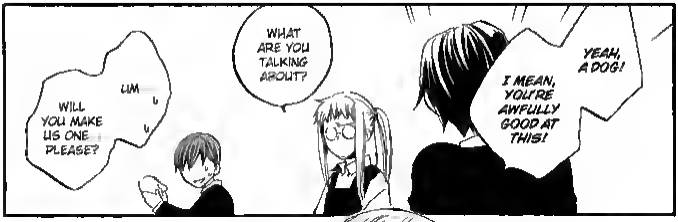
WE GO THERE TO HELP AFTER CLASSES, WHENEVER WE'RE FREE, THEN?
SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT.
blink blink
HEY, TULLI, YOU HAVE A ROOM ALL TO YOURSELF BACK HOME DON'T YOU?
YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY PROBLEMS SHARING A ROOM, THOUGH
TRUTH IS...
I PREFER IT THIS WAY. I GET GOOSE BUMPS AT NIGHT.
HMM.

RALIM?
YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER, BUT...
WE MET YEARS AGO, AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR.
DID WE?
UH-HUH.
I CAME HERE WITH MY FAMILY TO VISIT MY BROTHER.
BUT I GOT LOST...
...

-THERE'S SOMEONE-
flutter
THAT GIRL?
CAN'T BE.
I EITHER IMAGINED THAT, OR IT WAS SOME KID WHO WAS SNEAKING OUT!
WE NEVER DID FIND OUT IF SHE'S FROM THIS SCHOOL.
NO MATTER. I'LL ASK HER THE NEXT TIME I SEE HER.

LINE-UP OF HEADS
WHOA!
YOU MADE ALL OF THEM, EDONA?
I HEAR THAT ALL THE TIME. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
They say I have a sick hobby, blah blah
GRAE
AWESOME ARE YOU SHOOTING A HORROR--?

CLAY, HUH?
CAN YOU MAKE A DOG FROM CLAY?
A DOG?
THE HOOD VESSELS ARE SEE-THROUGH
CLAY,
STONE CLAY
ONCE IT'S DRY COAT THE BASE THEN PAINT ON TOP OF THE COATING USE OIL-BASED PAINTS
THAT'S WHAT I DO
WHAT DO YOU USE TO MAKE THESE?
THEY'RE TRANSPARENT BECAUSE I PAINT THE DRY LAYER


UM
WILL YOU MAKE US ONE PLEASE?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YEAH, A DOG!
I MEAN, YOU'RE AWFULLY GOOD AT THIS!

Prick
I..
HAPPEN TO HATE DOGS

...?
WHAT WAS THAT WEIRD PRICKLING SENSATION?
OH I GUESS YOU CAN'T HELP US.
DOES IT HAVE TO BE A DOG?
YEAH.
A GRAY DOG. PROBABLY A HUGE ONE.
?!
"I... HATE DOGS."
WHY...
AM I SEEING THIS?
IT'S BROKEN.

bzzt.
FIX IT.
bzzt.
bzzt.
...HATE THAT WOMAN.
...DOGS.
SHUT UP.
...
CUT IT OUT.
...IT.
HEY, RAUM?
SOMETHING WRONG? YOU LOOK PALE.
!
HE'S RIGHT. IF YOU DON'T FEEL GOOD, YOU SHOULD GO—
wobble

THUD
RAUM!
HEY! ARE YOU OK?!
I'LL GO GET SOME-BODY!
HUH?
RAUM?

COMMENT

榧世シキ

SHIKI KAYASE

This volume oozes that "the-author-is-new-to-this" atmosphere. Thanks to a number of people, however, I was able to once again bring my ideas to life. I would also like to thank everybody who has picked up this book.

Just as I took my eyes off the breaking news of a certain presidential election in order to work on the postscript, the electoral winner was announced. (pauses) Here is a book marked by an historical event.

ねじまきの庭 1

榧世シキ

THE WIND UP GARDEN
SHIKI KAYASE

ZERO SUM

ねじまきの庭 1 榧世シキ

エロ
一迅社

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A classic boarding school surrounded by lush greenery, complete with a lake associated with the fairy folk, spirits and such — perfect for boys and girls to experience the mean a ...

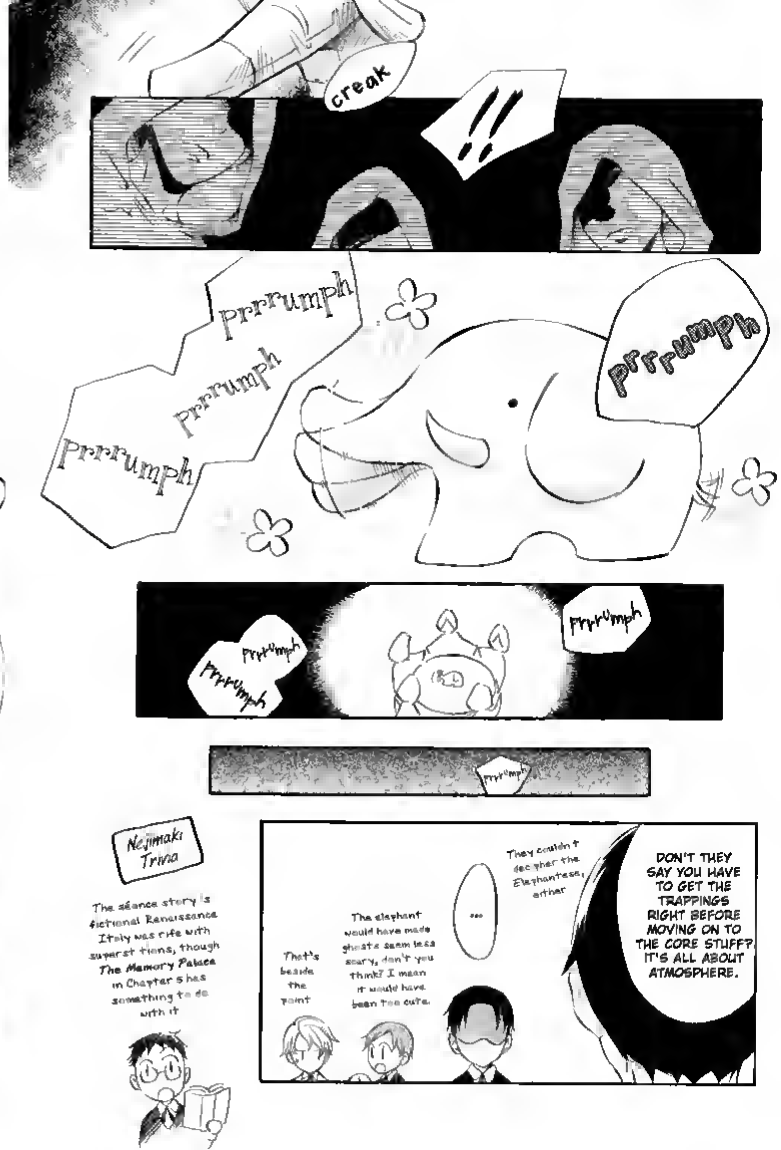
YAN HAS A DEVICE FOR COMMUNICATING WITH THE DEAD (WHICH LOOKS LIKE A TIN CAT) GIVEN TO HIM BY HIS GRANDFATHER. HE NAMED IT GIGI.
Gigi, not "Geezer"
JUST SO YOU KNOW, THIS IS THE WORK OF A GROUP OF ITALIAN ARTISANS.
Why Italian?
THE SHAPE DOES GIVE IT MAGIC VIBES, THOUGH.
WHY IS IT CAT-SHAPED?
READY, MEN?
IN THE END, THEY CREATED TWO SHAPES— ELEPHANT AND CAT—AND HELD AN ACTUAL SÉANCE TO TEST THEM OUT.
BRACE YOURSELVES

EDEN SUN COMICS

ねじまきの庭 1

槻世シキ

エロ亡一迅社


creak
!!
Prrrumph
Prrrumph
Prrrumph
Prrrumph
Prrrumph
Prrrumph
Nejimaki Trivia
The séance story is fictional Renaissance Italy was rife with superstitions, though The Memory Palace in Chapter 5 has something to do with it
That's beside the point
The elephant would have made ghosts seem less scary, don't you think? I mean it would have been too cute.
...
They couldn't decipher the Elephantess, either
DON'T THEY SAY YOU HAVE TO GET THE TRAPPINGS RIGHT BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE CORE STUFF? IT'S ALL ABOUT ATMOSPHERE.